

# The Democratic Banner.

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## TO MAKE INCOMES BEAR THE BURDEN

### Democrats On The Question Of Defense Revenues

### Will Also Tax Inheritance And Levy On War Munitions

Washington, Feb. 21.—The increased revenues necessary for carrying out the administration's preparedness program will be chiefly derived by changes in the income tax law and a levy on war munitions.

This is indicated by a poll that has been made of the ways and means committee of the house, which originates all revenue legislation. A majority of that committee, including nearly all the Democrats, favor relying mostly on the income tax for necessary revenues, and a majority also are disposed to levy a tax in some form upon war munitions. There is also sentiment in the committee favoring an inheritance tax.

A notable feature of the poll is that there is no sentiment in favor of a tax on gasoline, a general levy on fabricated iron and steel or other items suggested by the administration.

While the Democratic party in congress, as evidenced by the ways and means committee, is intent upon making those with incomes bear the chief burden of the national defense expenditures, it is apparent the plans of some of the leaders to tap this source exclusively will be stubbornly opposed. It is evident, too, that there will be strong opposition within the Democratic party to any plan which contemplates merely a boosting of the surtax rates as applied to incomes over \$10,000 a year. Influential Democrats will insist upon a lowering of the present income tax exemptions, so as to make the application of the tax more general.

The polls show that many members of the ways and means committee favor reducing the exemptions as well as raising the surtaxes. The New York delegation in congress will have to be reckoned with on this subject. The poll of all the members of that delegation who were in Washington showed that they are practically un-

animous in opposing further increases in the income tax unless there is a lowering of the exemptions and a more equitable distribution of the burden.

New York state last year paid more than \$17,000,000 in income taxes, nearly half of the total amount turned into the treasury from this source. At the same time the state contributed more than \$10,000,000, or one quarter of the yield, from the corporation tax.

The Republican members of the ways and means committee believe that national defense revenues should be raised by an upward revision of the tariff. As the Democrats will not assent to this, the Republicans will be obliged to take their choice from changes in the income tax, a tax on war munitions and an inheritance tax. Some of the Republicans will support a program of taxation containing one or more of these features.

Representative Kitchin, the Democratic leader and chairman of the ways and means committee, believes the only practical way of raising the money for defense is by changes in the income tax law.

### ARE UNDER GUARD

Federal Deputy Marshals On Board the Captured Liner Appam.

Norfolk, Feb. 21.—Lieutenant Berg, commanding the captured British liner Appam, practically made prisoners of the two United States deputy marshals placed on his ship by order of the federal court, following proceedings brought by the African Steam Navigation company of Liverpool to secure possession of the ship. He did not give the two Americans food and forbade them from going about the ship. They were obliged to remain in their quarters and were practically under guard. Lieutenant Berg will hold a conference with representatives of the German embassy.

### OFFER REJECTED

California Progressives Suggest Compromise to Republicans.

San Francisco, Feb. 21.—Compromise between the Republicans and Progressives in the nomination of California delegates to the Republican national convention, to be held in Chicago in June, has been rejected by the executive committee of the Republican state central committee at a meeting here. The Progressive proposition was to let the Republicans nominate thirteen of the twenty-six Republican delegates if a like number of Progressives would be acceptable. It was declared by the committee that the California delegation to Chicago should go unimpaired.

State Hospital Laundry Burns. Massillon, O., Feb. 21.—The laundry of the Massillon state hospital for the insane was totally destroyed by fire, with a loss of \$100,000. No one was injured.

## JUDGE DAY STILL AILING

Washington, Feb. 21.—The supreme court resumed sittings today after a recess of nearly a month. Only seven members of the court were present, for Justice Day, who has been ill since the beginning of the year, was not able to resume his work. He is at his home at Canton, O., and will remain there some time. It is said to be doubtful if he will resume work this term.

## SHERIFF IS KILLED PURSUING PRISONERS

Deming, N. M., Feb. 21.—Prisoners in the county jail here mutinied, locked the sheriff and his attendants in a cell, telephoned for an automobile and escaped in it, and later, in a battle with the sheriff and his posse, killed the sheriff. The prisoners told the garage keeper it was Sheriff Dwight Stevens talking and that the car was wanted to take a sick man

to a hospital. The chauffeur was locked up with the sheriff and the prisoners escaped in the car after first looting the militia armory for rifles and ammunition. Later the sheriff secured his release and with a posse followed the prisoners. In a battle the sheriff was killed. Two of the escaped prisoners were murderers.

## PROBING COMMITTEE BRINGS OUT DETAILS OF NEW YORK'S MONSTER SUBWAY DEALS



Upper, L. to R., STANCHFIELD, SHONTS, NICOLL  
Lower, SHONTS TESTIFYING—

Pursuing the investigation into the matter of subway contracts in New York, which investigation has brought forth amazing stories of "high finance" and bonuses paid to subway officials, the Thompson legislative investigating committee examined Theodore P. Shonts, president of the Interborough Rapid Transit com-

pany. It learned from Mr. Shonts how Mayor Gaynor, committed by the votes of the people to the construction of a city owned and operated subway system, suddenly changed his attitude in favor of the Interborough's partnership plan after a visit paid the mayor in 1910 at his country home in St. James, N. Y., by President Shonts.

On this trip Shonts said he was accompanied by Mirabeau L. Towns, at that time neighbor and friend of Gaynor. Towns got \$5,000 for taking Shonts to St. James, where Shonts talked for three hours to the mayor trying to convince him that "the Interborough was on the level and that the city's proposed plan to build and operate the subways was greatly inferior to the plan of the Interborough."

Following this visit, which was made on a Sunday in April, 1910, Mayor Gaynor suddenly ceased his criticism of the Interborough Rapid Transit company and lined up solidly in support of the Interborough plan. Mr. Shonts in his examination was flanked by the leading legal generals of the Interborough staff, including DeLancey Nicoll and John B. Stanchfield.

## LOOTING CHARGED

Youngstown, O., Feb. 21.—The grand jury investigating the Youngstown riots has returned more than 200 indictments. Seven employees of the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie railroad charged with breaking into stores on the night of the riots were placed under arrest. They are all Americans.

## NEGROES MURDERED

Newark, O., Feb. 21.—Mrs. Jane Shackelford, ninety, and her half brother, Elijah Woodfork, sixty-five, both negroes, were found murdered in the former's home with their faces mashed to a pulp, and near their bodies lay a bloody table leg which had been used by the murderer.

### GREY BLAMES GERMANS

American Plan of Aiding Belgium to Feed Herself Fails.

London, Feb. 21.—The plan of aiding Belgium to feed herself by rehabilitating the industries of the country under control of the American commission for relief in Belgium has failed, according to a letter written by Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign secretary, to M. Hymans, the Belgian minister here, because the Germans thus far have failed to reply to the request for guarantees that raw materials and manufactured goods will not be seized by the occupying armies.

The American relief commission some time ago proposed that certain kinds of noncontraband raw materials should be permitted to pass through the British blockade into Belgium, goods manufactured from them to be re-exported. It was proposed that the balance of trade thus created in favor of Belgium should be invested in food, thus putting the population, as far as possible, upon a self-supporting basis and at the same time checking the growing demoralization, due to long unemployment.

## FEDERAL SLEUTHS BUSY MAKING INVESTIGATION

New York, Feb. 21.—Ignatius T. T. Lincoln, German spy, rests in solitary confinement in the Raymond street jail, Brooklyn, thinking over the snappy things he had written previous to his capture, twitting the federal authorities about his own elusiveness. Federal agents are continuing their inquiry along lines that may bring further arrests in connection with Lincoln's escape and harboring in various places. The line of inquiry is directed in four different

ways. First, into the details of his escape; secondly, the persons who gave him lodging or helped him during his freedom; thirdly, whether he had any direct communication with the newspaper that received letters from him, and whether he received money from the editors; fourthly, whether any money obtained from the publishers got into his hands after his escape through various mediums. Lincoln has announced that he is ready to tell all.

## A HEAVY INCREASE

Columbus, Feb. 21.—The year ending Nov. 15, 1915, was the heaviest year in the business of the secretary of state. The total receipts for the period were \$1,547,228.32, which is an increase over the preceding year of \$554,637.81. In 1910 the receipts were \$454,280.95.

## FIVE NEW ENTRANTS

Columbus, Feb. 21.—It is said that a new quartet of candidates for delegates-at-large to the Republican convention will soon be announced. The new entrants, unless plans are changed within the next few days, it is stated, will be General J. Warren Keifer, Springfield; Miner G. Norton, Cleveland; state central committee man; Matt Chasen, Cincinnati; and either C. L. Kulsh, Akron, or John J. Sullivan, Cleveland.

## ESTATES HELD LIABLE

Columbus, Feb. 21.—Probate Judge Black decided that former trustees of the estate of Henry C. Pirruss, who was general manager of the old Capital City Dairy company, are liable for \$170,674 on grounds of alleged mismanagement. They are W. H. Eberst and M. Leo Corbett of Columbus. The estate of Cornelius A. Hayes, a former trustee, also is held equally liable.

## COUPLE IN SUICIDE PACT

Cambridge, O., Feb. 21.—The body of Mrs. Samuel Russell, thirty-five, was found in her home at Minneapaha Mine with a bullet hole through her heart. On a bed nearby was the body of Whitmore Tedrick, forty, who had died as the result of drinking carbolic acid. A revolver with two cartridges discharged lay by the woman's side. A suicide pact is suspected.

## MEET IN JOINT CONFERENCE

Anthracite Operators and Miners  
Get Together.

### WAGE QUESTION IS TAKEN UP

Miners of the Hard Coal District Seek Increase of Twenty Per Cent and Recognition of Their Union—Bituminous Miners and Operators Also to Meet This Week—What the Operators Say.

New York, Feb. 21.—Representatives of the United Mine Workers of America and of the coal mine operators met in convention at the Hotel McAlpin today to try and reach an agreement by which they can go on amicably working together after March 31, when the agreement now existing will expire.

During the first part of the week the anthracite miners and operators will endeavor to conclude their business. Beginning Thursday the bituminous miners and operators, who have been holding a convention in Mobile without success, will continue their efforts towards an understanding here.

The miners are asking an eight hour day, recognition of their union, and in the case of the anthracite workers a 20 per cent increase in wages. The bituminous workers are seeking a 10 per cent increase. There are other issues at stake, but they are of minor importance.

John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers, who established headquarters here, issued a statement covering the demands of the miners and explaining why increased wages are essential to their existence. He was not hopeful that the operators will agree to the demands already drawn up, but he does believe that an ultimate compromise can be reported.

The operators have signified in a recent publicity campaign that it will be impossible for them to grant the two chief demands, namely higher wages and shorter hours, without increasing the retail price of coal considerably. Already they have informally refused to grant the demands.

Despite the fact that there is likely to be something of a deadlock from the very beginning of the conference, Mr. White does not think that a general strike will have to be called. He explains that the union has adopted a non-suspension policy, which means that so long as there is hope of a settlement a general strike will not be ordered.

"Conditions in the anthracite field have grown worse instead of better, because the cost of living has gone up faster than wages," said Mr. White. "The average anthracite mine worker gets far less than enough to support his family decently. Since 1902 wages have increased 5.6 per cent. The cost of food since that year has increased 17 per cent, according to the United States bureau of labor statistics. Between 1903 and 1914 the wholesale price of clothing increased 33 per cent, according to the same authority."

### DR. RICHMOND MAY QUIT

Will Hold Conference With Parishioners This Week.

Philadelphia, Feb. 21.—Burdened by the financial strain of paying lawyers' fees for ever-recurring church trials and combating injunctions in the civil courts, Rev. George Chalmers Richmond is reported to be almost ready to surrender. Mr. Richmond did not appear in the pulpit of St. John's Episcopal church, and some of his friends intimated that he would never preach in the church again. Mr. Richmond will hold a conference with his parishioners in St. John's parish house Wednesday night, when an important announcement affecting the future of St. John's parish may be forthcoming.

City Official Ousted. Jackson, O., Feb. 21.—The suspension of Charles O. Evans, superintendent of the city electric light plant, has been affirmed by the city civil service board, to whom the matter was referred by Mayor Laird.

### Detective's Room Ransacked.

Toledo, Feb. 21.—A sensation was sprung in the county's investigation into alleged graft affairs when it was learned that the room of Harry Bradbury, state secret service officer, had been entered and papers of all kinds were thrown about. It is believed that the prowlers were endeavoring to obtain papers of importance bearing on the investigation now being made.

## GERMAN AIRSHIPS

### Make A Daring Raid In Day-light

### England's East and Southeast Coasts Bombarded.

### CASUALTIES REPORTED LIGHT

British Aircraft Which Ascended to Engage the Raiders Failed to Reach Them—German Planes of Latest Type and Capable of Ascending to an Extraordinary Height—Operations On All Fronts.

London, Feb. 21.—England's east and southwest coasts were visited in broad daylight Sunday by four German seaplanes, presumably of the latest type. The official figure of casualties was only three—two men and one boy—killed, and one man, a marine, injured. Many bombs were dropped. The damage as officially reported was confined chiefly to private property.

A feature of the official account is the frank admission that British aircraft, one naval plane and two aeroplanes, which ascended to attack the raiders, failed to reach them. It appears the German planes are capable of ascending to an extraordinary height.

The war office states that two biplanes, after circling over the town of Lowestoft in Kent, "rose to a great height and seemingly vanished." Fifteen minutes later they reappeared over the town and then flew to the east.

At Lowestoft it develops only three bombs hit buildings. Others fell on waste ground, into gardens, on the beach and into the sea, none of them doing any damage of military importance.

### Capture British Positions.

The Germans have been operating along the Yser canal in Belgium, to the north of Ypres. From the British 350 meters of position were captured, and held, despite hand grenade attacks to recapture it. After a heavy bombardment the Germans attempted to cross the canal and occupy French positions, and several groups did succeed in making their way to this line trench. They, however, were immediately driven back. British to the south of Loos in a lively engagement succeeded in making an advance to the edge of a mine crater held by the Germans.

The French in Champagne between the Meuse and Moselle rivers and to the west of the forest of Apremont, have bombarded successfully German positions, while in the Argonne forest a mine exploded by the French shattered the German works.

Only isolated engagements have taken place on the Russian front. On the Austro-Italian line the artillery duels continue.

Continuing their advance in Albania, the Austro-Hungarians report the capture near Bazar-Sjak, a short distance northeast of Durazzo, of an advanced Italian position. This is the first indication that the Italians were operating so far north in Albania, the belief having prevailed that their activities had been confined to the locality adjacent to Avlona.

### Moving Against Avlona.

That progress is being made by the Teutonic allies in the direction of Avlona seemingly is shown by the report that the Albanians who are fighting with them have occupied the town of Berat, situated about thirty-one miles northeast of Avlona.

The Russian army which captured Erzerum, in Armenia, is endeavoring to cut off the retreat of the Turks, who are retiring with as much speed as possible. Dispatches from Petrograd report the capture of the towns of Mush and Achiat, to the south, heavy fighting preceding their taking by storm. Along the Black sea coast, Russian warships are pounding at the Turkish batteries and harassing the retreating troops.

The northern wing of the Russian army has captured the town of Wildie and is driving the Turks back in the direction of Gumisa Khanah, which is on the road to Trebizond, while large Russian forces are moving westward from Erzerum with the object of cutting off these Turkish troops before they can reach a new line of defense.